

Diners: be careful with the fish

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The Nevada State Health Division today issued a fish consumption advisory for six lakes, reservoirs and rivers in the Silver State due to high levels of mercury found in fish there.

Officials recommend no fish caught in the Carson River downstream of Dayton and in Lahontan Reservoir be eaten. Any white mouth bass caught in Washoe Lake should also be avoided.

People should not eat any wipers or walleye and no more than one eight-ounce meal of any other fish caught in Humboldt County's Rye Patch Reservoir, according to the health advisory. Walleye caught in Humboldt County's Chimney Dam Reservoir should also be avoided, as should any walleye or northern pike caught White Pine County's Comins Lake, the advisory said.

Mercury advisories have been in place for the lower Carson River and Lahontan Reservoir for more than a decade but the advisories are the first for the other areas, all popular fishing spots.

The advisory was issued after initial results were returned from an 18-month sampling effort by the Nevada Department of Wildlife. More than 350 fish caught 39 different bodies of water in Nevada were tested.

Officials say it is impossible to know whether the mercury found in the fish is natural in origin, produced by human activity or both.

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